

South Dakota Department of Social Services
CERTIFICATE OF LICENSE
as a
CHILD WELFARE AGENCY

This is to certify that Children's Home Society is hereby granted
an extension to conduct and maintain a Group Care Center for Minors-Shelter Care Facility
(Children's Home for Shelter and Family Safety)
Located at 113 N. St. Paul Ave., Sioux Falls, SD to provide care for a maximum of
8 children 0 to 17 for the period from July 1, 2024 to August 31, 2024.

SDCL 1-26-28 permits an existing license to remain in effect after its expiration date
provided a "timely" application has been submitted. This license is subject to revocation for
reasonable cause as cited in SDCL 1967; Section 26-6-23.

Issued this 30th day of June 2024.



License Number R102



Licensing & Accreditation Administrator

Department of Social Services
Office of Licensing & Accreditation
910 E. Sioux Avenue
Pierre, S.D. 57501-3940
605-773-4766

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this license to conduct and maintain a Group Care Center for Minors-Shelter Care Facility
(Children's Home for Shelter and Family Safety)
Located at 113 N. St. Paul Ave., Sioux Falls, SD to provide care for a maximum of
8 children 0 to 17 years, for the period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

This facility satisfactorily complies with requirements of the South Dakota Compiled Laws of 1967,
Sections 26-6-1 through 26-6-27 and the Child Care Standards as established by the
South Dakota Department of Social Services. This license is subject to revocation for
reasonable cause as cited in SDCL 1967; Section 26-6-23.
Issued this 29th day of June 2024.



License Number R102



Licensing & Accreditation Administrator

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Office of Licensing & Accreditation
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**LICENSING RENEWAL STUDY
SHELTER CARE CENTERS FOR MINORS
ARSD 67:42:01, 67:42:07**

AGENCY NAME: Children’s Home Shelter for Family Safety (R102)

DIRECTOR: Michelle Lavallee

1. Licensing Requirements - 67:42:07:11.01; SDCL 26-6-11

A. The following have been submitted to the Department:	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. Application materials for license.	✓	_____
2. Documentation of need.	N/A	_____
3. A copy of the building plans (approved by the Fire Marshal and Department of Health).	N/A	_____
B. A statement of compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is included in the agency's policies or is a part of the purchase of service contract with the Department.	✓	_____

Comments:

An application for license renewal dated May 24, 2024 is on file in the licensing record. It contains a signed statement of compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
2. <u>Agency Responsibilities</u> – SDCL 26-6-11		
A. The building and equipment needs of the organization are adequately met.	✓	_____
B. The agency has sufficient funds to meet the needs of the community.	✓	_____

Comments:

The reviewers found the facility to be adequately furnished and maintained to provide for the needs of the residents served. Financial information provided indicates the availability of sufficient funds to provide for the needs of the program.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
3. <u>Insurance</u> - 67:42:01:35		
A. Vehicles used to transport clients have appropriate passenger liability insurance.	✓	_____
B. The agency carries public liability insurance.	✓	_____

Comments:

Auto liability, professional liability, and commercial general liability insurance is purchased from Marsh and McLennan Agency LLC policy # 853102212. A copy of the Certification of Liability Insurance verifying coverage through February 1, 2025 was submitted with the application materials.

- | | | | |
|----|--|------------|-----------|
| 4. | <u>Accounting Systems</u> - 67:42:01:34 | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
| | A. An audit of the accounts has been done in the last year by a CPA. | ✓ | |

An audit of Children’s Home Society of South Dakota’s financial reports for the period ending June 30th, 2023 and 2022 was completed by Eide Bailly LLP, CPA’s on November 15, 2023 was submitted with the agency’s application.

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|----|--|------------|-----------|
| 5. | <u>Staff Qualifications</u> - 67:42:07:02, 67:42:07:07 | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
| | A. Program Director | | |
| | 1. Bachelor's degree in an accredited behavioral or social sciences area, or | ✓ | |
| | 2. An equivalent combination of education and experience. | N/A | |
| | 3. At least two years of relevant alternative child care experience. | ✓ | |

Comments:

Kobi Ringling, BA in Human Services, is acting director until July 26th, 2024. The agency is actively searching for a new director.

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|--|---|------------|-----------|
| | B. Other Staff | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
| | 1. At least eighteen years of age. | ✓ | |
| | 2. If under age twenty-one, is under direct supervision of an experienced child care staff; and 3 years older than any children supervised. | N/A | |

Comments:

A list of staff including date of employment, position and education was submitted with the application for renewal. Personnel records were reviewed for individuals aged twenty-one or older.

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|----|--|------------|-----------|
| 6. | <u>Staff/Child Ratio</u> - 67:43:07:03 | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
| | A. 1:8 during waking hours. | ✓ | |
| | B. 1:25 in the building during sleeping hours. | ✓ | |
| | C. One staff member present in each separate sleeping unit during sleeping hours. | ✓ | |
| | D. Arrangements made for substitute staff during vacations, illness, or off-duty time of regular staff. | ✓ | |
| | E. Certified special ed teachers are employed (when appropriate). | N/A | |
| | F. Provisions are made for auxiliary staff members, i.e., mental health professionals, physical therapist, and/or occupational therapist (when appropriate). | N/A | |
| | G. A shelter care facility maintains a staff/child ratio of 1:4 for children under the age of four years during waking hours. | ✓ | |
| | H. Facility has a written plan to ensure that staff, law enforcement, or | | |

appropriate emergency responders are available at the center within a reasonable time in the event of an emergency.	✓		
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Comments:

A staff schedule was submitted with the application for license renewal and indicates staff to client ratio is met at all times if the staff schedule is followed accordingly. The staff schedule notes additional staff in the form of Case Managers, Assistant Program Supervisors and Social Worker Crisis Intervention staff in the building at various hours for additional staff.

7. Personnel Records - 67:42:07:07, 67:42:07:08, 67:42:07:09

	<u>YES</u>		<u>NO</u>
A. Personnel records are maintained and contain the following:			
1. Resume or application that includes educational background, personal, and employment history.	✓		
2. Job description.	✓		
3. Annual Performance Appraisal.	✓		
4. Verification of contact with at least three former employers or professional references if former employers not available.	✓		
5. Verification of screening for substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect.	✓		
6. Verification of submission of fingerprints to the DCI.	✓		
7. Verification of sex offender registry checks.	✓		
8. Verification of current certification in basic 1 st aid and CPR.	✓		

Comments:

Each record reviewed contained documentation to verify compliance with the above requirements.

8. In-service Training - 67:42:07:04

	<u>YES</u>		<u>NO</u>
A. There is a written plan for orientation and training for staff and volunteers.	✓		
B. Each employee has a documented record of an initial orientation to the center within one month of the date of hire that includes the facility's functions, services, community resources and specific job functions.	✓		
C. Each employee has a documented record of a minimum of twenty-four hours annual in-service training.	✓		
D. Each employee receives in-service training during the first year of employment that includes all of the areas required in 67:42:07:04.	✓		
E. Training for all employees after the first year of employment is determined by an annual evaluation and is competency based.	✓		

Comments:

Each record reviewed contained documentation to verify compliance with the above requirements. Interviews with staff indicated that they were receiving sufficient training in appropriate areas and they noted that they receive more than the mandated yearly hours.

9. <u>Reporting Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect and Changes in Circumstances</u> - 67:42:01:12, 67:42:07:15, 67:42:07:16, 67:42:07:05	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. The facility has a written procedures for handling and reporting suspected in-house CA/N. It includes:	✓	
1. A definition of what constitutes CA/N;	✓	
2. Immediate reporting to DSS or law enforcement;	✓	
3. A procedure for assuring the incident will not recur pending the investigation;	✓	
4. A procedure for evaluating the continued employability of any staff member involved in an incident of CA/N.	✓	
B. Each employee has signed a statement acknowledging and understanding the reporting procedure.	✓	
C. The facility is aware of its need to report any changes of circumstances that may affect its licensed status.	✓	

Comments:

Agency written procedures for reporting of suspected incidents of child abuse or neglect are in compliance with licensing rules.

10. <u>Treatment</u> – 67:42:01:01(3), 67:42:01:21, 67:42:07:01, 67:42:07:01.01, 67:42:07:01.02, 67:42:07:05, 67:42:07:10, 67:42:07:28, 67:42:07: 29	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. There are written procedures relating to:		
1. Intake.	✓	
2. Treatment.	N/A	
3. Discharge.	✓	
4. Discipline	✓	
5. Confidentiality.	✓	
6. Health care of children	✓	
7. Emergency procedures in case a child is injured.	✓	

Comments:

Children’s Home Shelter for Family Safety has written procedures which relate to all the above required areas that are in compliance with licensing rules. A copy of changes to policy and procedures in the area of Child Placement was submitted with the application materials and can be found in the licensing record.

B.	Children attend a local school.	✓	
	<u>Comments:</u>		
	School age residents at Children’s Home Shelter for Family Safety attend school in the Sioux Falls School District.		
C.	Case records are maintained and include the following:		
	1. Face sheet/application form with identifying information.	✓	
	*2. Development of the treatment plan must involve the child in care, the facility staff working with the child, the placement agency and if appropriate the parents.	N/A	
	*3. Treatment plans are developed within one month of placement and updated at least every three months.	N/A	
	*4. Treatment plans must contain the child’s needs and strengths.	N/A	
	*5. Treatment goals for the child and family, including a description of how family and aftercare services will be provided, and projected times for achieving goals;	N/A	
	*6. A discharge plan that includes the projected length of stay and the conditions under which the child will be discharged.	N/A	
	*7. Monthly progress reports submitted to placement agency.	N/A	
	*8. Progress reports reflect the treatment plan.	N/A	
	9. Physical exam (twelve months prior to or thirty days following admission).	✓	
	10. Current immunization record.	✓	
	11. A signed authorization for medical care.	✓	
	12. On-going records of medical/dental/eye/hearing care.	✓	
	13. Signed statement verifying the child’s parent or guardian was informed of agency written policies.	✓	
D.	Records are kept in a locked file.	✓	
*E.	A shelter care facility that does not provide short term assessment services is exempt from numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 but submits a summary report to the placement agency upon discharge of the child.	✓	
F.	Children do not remain in a shelter care facility longer than thirty days unless an extension of time is needed not to exceed thirty days for the plan to be implemented or needed assessment services completed.	✓	
G.	The interstate compact administrator has been contacted before acceptance of an out-of-state child.	N/A	
H.	A facility that provides alternative services to children in custody of the department has a signed alternative service agreement with the department.	N/A	

Comments:

Records reviewed for children in care and documentation was found in each to verify compliance with licensing rules. In two of the records the need for an extension past the initial thirty days was needed for further evaluation and transition into a more permanent placement setting.

11. Medications - 67:42:07:19, 67:42:07:20, 67:42:07:22, 67:42:07:23

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. The facility has written procedures relating to the storage and administration of medication which include:		
1. Conditions under which medications may be given.	✓	
2. Procedures for documenting the administration of medication.	✓	
3. Procedures for immediately notifying the facility's nurse in cases of medication errors or drug reactions. The nurse assesses the situation and determines whether there is a need to report the incident to the attending physician.	✓	
4. Procedures for evaluating and recording each child's reactions to prescribed medication.	✓	
B. A licensed nurse is responsible for administration of medications.	✓	
C. Psychotropic drugs are prescribed by a MD, CNP or PA with ongoing quarterly follow-up.	✓	
D. Medicine is kept in a locked cabinet.	✓	
E. A medication record is kept on each child.	✓	

Comments:

Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety has written procedures for storage and administration of medications that are in compliance with licensing rules and can be found in the Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety Policies & Procedures Manual.

12. Seclusion and Restraint - 67:42:07:05, 67:42:07:24, 67:42:07:25, 67:42:07:26, 67:42:07:27

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. The facility has written procedures relating to the use of seclusion and restraint.	✓	
B. Use of seclusion and restraint is included in the treatment plan.	N/A	
C. Placement agency/parental/guardian approval of seclusion and restraint is obtained prior to its use.	✓	
D. Staff continuously observes and monitors a child who has been placed in a room for the purposes of seclusion.	✓	
E. Placement in seclusion or restraint does not exceed two hours if the child is age 9 to 17 or one hour if the child is under the age of 9.	✓	
F. Placement in seclusion or restraint is documented.	✓	
G. A room used for seclusion meets the physical specifications of 67:42:07:25.	N/A	

Comments:

Children’s Home Shelter for Family Safety written procedures for use of restraint and seclusion are in compliance with licensing requirements. It was noted that restraints are not happening on a regular basis and staff interviewed noted that the use of restraint and seclusion is used only as a last resort to protect staff and residents from injury.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
13. <u>Volunteers</u> - 67:42:07:14		
A. Have a written job description with specific responsibilities.	N/A	_____
B. Supervised and evaluated by an experienced staff member.	N/A	_____
C. Three documented non-related references.	N/A	_____
D. Documented orientation.	N/A	_____
E. Documented in-service training as per 67:42:07:04 if volunteer works thirty plus hours per week.	N/A	_____
F. Informed of obligation to report suspected CA/N.	N/A	_____
G. Verification of screening for substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect.	N/A	_____
H. Verification of submission of fingerprints to the DCI.	N/A	_____
I. Verification of sex offender registry checks.	N/A	_____

Comments:

Children’s Home Shelter for Family Safety did not utilize volunteers in the last year.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
14. <u>Physical Facility</u> - 67:42:07:11, 67:42:07:12		
A. There is a current fire inspection.	✓	_____
B. There is a current health inspection.	✓	_____
C. A fire escape plan is posted.	✓	_____
D. A minimum of four fire drills held annually.	✓	_____
E. Children of opposite gender over the age of six have separate sleeping facilities.	✓	_____
F. Sleeping children are monitored.	✓	_____
G. Each child has their own bed with linens, blankets and pillows.	✓	_____

Comments:

A copy of the fire/health inspection report dated July 15, 2024 is on file in the licensing record.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
15. <u>Nutrition</u> - 67:42:07:13		
A. Meals are of sufficient quantity to meet children's nutritional needs.	✓	_____
B. Arrangements are made for children with a special prescribed diet.	✓	_____

Comments:

Staff interviewed stated the food is good quality and sufficient quantity.

16. Recommendations:

Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety is found to be in substantial compliance with licensing rules for a Group Care Center for Minors-Shelter Care Facility.

It is recommended that a satisfactory license be issued to operate Children's Home Shelter for Family Safety as a Shelter Care Facility at 113 N. St. Paul Ave., Sioux Falls, South Dakota to provide care for a maximum of eight youth ages zero to seventeen.

Completed By: Kevin Kanta 6/29/24
 Kevin Kanta, Program Specialist

Date of On-Site Visit: 6/20/24

Program Manager: Muriel Nelson